

House Resolution 1603

By: Representatives Oliver of the 83rd, Benfield of the 85th, Henson of the 87th, and Gardner of the 57th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Ms. Tracie Lee Dean for her heroism and inviting her to appear before the
2 House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, thanks to the extraordinary determination and perseverance of Ms. Tracie Lee
4 Dean of Decatur, Georgia, a three-year- old little girl has been rescued from her abusers and
5 now will have a chance for a better life; and

6 WHEREAS, on a trip home from Diamond Head, Mississippi, Ms. Dean stopped at a gas
7 station in Evergreen, Alabama, where she spotted a little girl with a troubled look in her eyes
8 accompanied by an unfriendly older man who did not appear to be a relative; and

9 WHEREAS, with her intuition telling her something was wrong, she called 911 to report the
10 man's license plate number and vehicle description; after the dispatcher saw that the number
11 and description did not match, she simply informed Ms. Dean that police would look into the
12 matter and that everything was fine; and

13 WHEREAS, knowing in her heart that everything was not fine, Ms. Dean proceeded on her
14 own to find this little girl, scouring missing children websites and finally finding a young
15 child in Ohio who she thought might be her; after encountering what she felt to be a
16 dismissive attitude from authorities there, she tried to get the Alabama Bureau of
17 Investigation involved, but to no avail; and

18 WHEREAS, undaunted, on a Thursday afternoon after work, Ms. Dean drove 300 miles to
19 the gas station in Evergreen to review the store's security tapes herself; while doing so, a
20 Conecuh County Sheriff's Deputy entered the station and immediately became interested in
21 Ms. Dean's quest to find this young girl; and

1 WHEREAS, by the next day, the man as well as a woman had been apprehended and were
2 being held on counts related to sexual abuse of the little girl and a 17 year-old boy; most
3 importantly, these victims were out of the hands of their abusers; and

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Dean's tireless pursuit of an unknown child even in the face of doubt from
5 others makes this remarkable lady a true hero, and her story serves as a reminder to all of the
6 tremendous difference a single vigilant citizen can make.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
8 the members of this body join in commending Ms. Tracie Lee Dean for her exceptional
9 heroism and thank her for her courageous efforts to rescue a child in distress.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Ms. Tracie Lee Dean is invited to the House of
11 Representatives for purposes of being recognized by the House and receiving an appropriate
12 copy of this resolution at a date and time to be fixed by the Speaker of the House.